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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/760,670	01/21/2004	Katsuhiro Morisada	010482.53178US	1925

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EXAMINER

ALLEN, WILLIAM J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/760,670	Applicant(s) MORISADA, KATSUHIRO	
	Examiner William J. Allen	Art Unit 3625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/20/2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 8, and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 8, and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Prosecution History

Claims 1, 5, 8, and 11 are pending.

Claims 2-4, 6-7, and 9-10 have been canceled.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 1/20/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

On page 11 of Applicant's remarks, Applicant contests that "Perkowski fails to disclose or suggest the plug-in (module) for display of animation on the display device". The Examiner notes the claim language as follows: *wherein the information equipment further includes an information equipment side storage device that stores a Web browser as a program **for display of the home page** containing the Web instruction manual and a plug-in **for display of animation information on the display device via the Web browser***. As noted by the Office Action, the deficiency being addressed is the lack of a *plug-in* itself. Perkowski clearly shows the use of plug-ins to display various information. Additionally, the Examiner notes the following:

The subject matter of a properly construed claim is defined by the terms that limit its scope. It is this subject matter that must be examined. As a general matter, the grammar and intended meaning of terms used in a claim will dictate whether the language limits the claim scope. Language that suggests or makes optional but does not require steps to be performed or does not limit a claim to a particular structure does

not limit the scope of a claim or claim limitation. A recitation directed to the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the limitation of the claim.

The Examiner further notes that plug-ins such as, but not limited to, Macromedia Flash Player and Java Applets (Perkowski, 0120) are known in the art to provide animation capabilities and thereby provide the necessary functionality to perform the intended use.

Regarding Applicant's remarks concerning claims 5 and 8, those remarks are considered but are not persuasive for the reasons listed above.

In regards to Applicant's remarks concerning claim 11 on pages 12 and 13 the Examiner disagrees. The television/set-top box of Shear receives information from the web. Schultz in view of e-SIM provides one means to *read in via the Internet the Web instruction manual data, animation data, and display animated Web instructions manual*. What is lacking is the concept of a television/set-top box reading in the noted information. Shear clearly shows the ability of the television/set-top box to read in information via the web, effectively replacing the means of Schultz in view of e-SIM with the WebTV system of Shear.

Also on page 13 of Applicant's remarks, Applicant further suggests that there is no motivation "to display animation Web instruction manual on a screen of the television...". To establish a prima facie case of obviousness there must be some

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suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. The Examiner notes that, aside from the cited paragraphs of Shear, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize the added convenience of shopping at home. In particular, many home business owners could use such a system in the comfort of their own home.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. **Claims 1, 5, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultz et al. (US 2001/0029484, herein referred to as Schultz) in view of "e-SIM Powers Mitsubishi Electric and Electrics USA with Interactive User Manuals", dated May 3, 2001, extracted from Proquest November 7, 2005 (herein referred to as e-SIM) as applied to claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, and 9-10 above, and further in view of Perkowski (US 2004/0019535).**

Regarding claim 1, Schultz discloses a system and method for completing electronic transactions and issuing electronic receipts having links to related information. More specifically, Schultz teaches a *maker side web server supplied to the maker and distributing Web instruction manual data, regarding the product, created by*

HTML and animation data via the Internet. In response to clicking on a button provided on the browser, an associated hyperlink causes a browser to transmit a request for a page depicting the text of a user's manual for a selected product. The hyperlink can be directed to the manufacturer's web site (and thereby server) (see at least: [0006]; [0029]; [0057]-[0058]; FIG. 10).

Schultz further teaches *a merchant side web server supplied to a merchant buying the product from the maker for sale and connected to the maker side Web server via the Internet, the merchant side server having a storage device.* The system operated by the seller includes a server computer system. Shultz notes that it is common for these systems to include elements such as storage devices, monitors, keyboards, and other like peripheral devices (see at least: [0039]). A hyperlink connects the seller server to a manufacturer's web site and thereby the manufacturer's server (see at least: [0059]). The Examiner further notes the seller, in this situation, represents an entity that has purchased a product or products from the manufacturer.

Additionally, Schulz includes *information equipment supplied to the consumer, of the product offered and connected via the Internet to the maker side Web server and to the merchant side Web server, the information equipment having a display device on which a home page containing the Web Instruction manual is displayed.* A client computer (i.e. *information equipment supplied to a consumer*) is operated by a buyer using a Web browser. The browser allows the user to receive and view hypertext documents from a server. Received documents are displayed on a video monitor or other display (see at least: [0036]). The client computer is thereby connected to both

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the merchant side Web server and maker side Web server via the Internet. Information concerning products for sale is along with the user manuals can be displayed on the monitor/display means (see at least: [0058]; FIG. 10-12 and 14). Other suitable client devices include, but are in no way limited to, PDAs, palmtop computers, cellular phones, etc. (see at least: [0038]).

Furthermore, Schultz includes *in response to a request from a user for operation check on the product offered at the shopping site, the information equipment reads in via the Internet the Web instruction manual data*. By clicking the user manual button, an associated hyperlink causes the browser to transmit a request via the Internet for a page depicting the text of the user's manual for a selected product (see at least: [0058]-[0059]). Shultz teaches all of the above as noted and further teaches storing and invoking an applet or other executable code, such as XML, to perform functional processing to display user manual information (see at least: [0029]; [034]; [0058]-[059]). Shultz, however, does not teach a *storage device that stores the Web instructions manual data in HTML format and the animation data each distributed by the maker server and the animation data each stored in the merchant side Web server and displays animated Web instruction manual on the display device based on the Web instruction manual data and the animation data*. e-SIM discloses creating interactive HTML-based manuals for Mitsubishi's HVAC Advanced Products Division that will help contractors service heating and air conditioning systems more effectively by allowing technicians to access the division's Web site (i.e. *server*) to complete fieldwork. e-SIM also provides a 'LiveManuals' Web site presenting users with "virtual products" that look

and behave like real products (i.e. are *animated*). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the invention of Schultz to include storing Web instruction manual data in HTML format and displaying animated Web instruction manuals on display device as taught by e-SIM in order to allow users of products convenient access to interactive/animated user manuals via the Internet so that they may service/operate products and appliances more effectively.

Shultz and e-SIM teach all of the above as noted and further teach wherein the information equipment further includes an information equipment side storage device that stores a Web browser as a program of the home page containing the Web instruction manual. The client computer operated by a buyer can be a conventional personal computer on which a Web browser operates. As well known in the art, a browser is a software program that allows a user to receive and view hypertext documents from a server. The computer also include other hardware and software elements conventionally included in personal computers, such as a keyboard 246, a processor, disk storage device such as a hard disk drive (see at least: [0036]). A hyperlink directed to the manufacturer's site (i.e. home page) provides a textual user's manual. Shultz and e-SIM, however, do not teach where the information equipment reads the plug-in stored in the information equipment. Perkowski discloses an internet-based consumer product kiosk complete with browser functionality. Perkowski also includes plug-in modules that automatically install product information buttons on the GUI in order to allow a users to access a central web site from anywhere in the world with a single click of the mouse (see at least: [0110]; [0267]). It would have been

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obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the invention of Shultz to include the information equipment reading a plug-in stored in the information equipment as taught by Perkowski in order to allow a users to access a central web site from anywhere in the world with a single click of the mouse, adding functionality and convenience to an interface (see at least: [0110]; [0267]).

Regarding claims 5 and 8, Shultz further teaches *wherein the information equipment is a client computer or a personal digital assistant*. A buyer using a Web browser operates a client computer. Information concerning products for sale is along with the user manuals can be displayed on the monitor/display means (see at least: [0036]; [0058]; FIG. 10-12 and 14). Other suitable client devices include, but are in no way limited to, PDAs, palmtop computers, cellular phones, etc. (see at least: [0038]).

2. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schultz et al. (US 2001/0029484, herein referred to as Schultz) in view of "e-SIM Powers Mitsubishi Electric and Electrics USA with Interactive User Manuals", dated May 3, 2001, extracted from Proquest November 7, 2005 (herein referred to as e-SIM), as applied to claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, and 9-10 above, and further in view of Shear et al. (US 2001/0042043, herein referred to as Shear).

Regarding claim 11, Shultz and e-SIM teach all of the above as noted and further teach allowing users to make purchases from point-of sale terminals in retail

environments. Shultz and e-SIM, however, do not teach *a WebTV supplied to a consumer of the product offered for sale at the shopping site set up on the merchant side Web server, the WebTV having a television connected to an image reproduction apparatus that reproduces images recorded on a recording medium and a set-top box for connection between television and the Internet*. Shear discloses a television set and/or set top box to record and reproduce video signals, recordable on writable optical media such as, but not limited to, DVD-RAM (see at least: [0165]). Shear further discloses a WebTV system, among other devices, to provide comprehensive, integrated support services for secure electronic commerce and other forms of electronic interaction (see at least: [0249]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the invention of Schultz and e-SIM to include a WebTV feature as taught by Shear in order to provide comprehensive, integrated support services for secure electronic commerce and other forms of electronic interaction (see at least: [0249]).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- JP 2003331006 discloses a product development support system for use with a Web server for creating work manuals and animation
- US 205/0172231 to Myers discloses a computer based method for interrelated image and narrative information

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William J. Allen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1443. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Fadok can be reached on (571) 272-6755. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

William J. Allen
Patent Examiner
March 29, 2006


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Acty Spe 3625